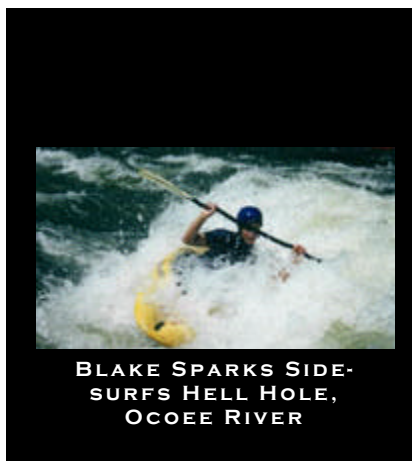


OCOEE FIRST-TIME, CONTINUED

had a look of astonishment on their faces, and I didn't know why. They explained that in most cases when a person goes in there, it takes a while and a whole lot of work to get out. The next time I went down the river, I didn't dare go near it. Beyond this is Double Trouble. It is a series of wave like shoals; they are like 5 feet tall. When going over them it seems like you are air-borne. After passing them I looked back and a raft was practically vertical, it was pretty neat to think I had just gone over that. A short jog down the river was Goforth creek; this is where we took out. This was a great trip and I had a great time! I would highly recommend for anyone who either has nothing to do, or wants some adventure to join the White Water Kids Club. The instructors are some

of the best paddlers in the area and even the nation, and so is the program.



Q & A WITH JOE JACOBI

1992 Olympic Gold Medalist Joe Jacobi has just returned from a 2-month trip to Europe where he and C-2 partner Matt Taylor competed against the world's best paddlers. With a 4th place finish at the World Cup in Augsburg, Germany and 1st place at the U.S. National Championships in D.C., Joe and Matt are off to a great start on their quest to represent the U.S. at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. Joe recently sat down with Rapid Transit and talked about his and Matt's successes.

RT: In 10 words or less, describe your experiences racing in Europe this summer.

JJ: My most enjoyable summer overseas, in and out of the boat!

RT: What has been the most important contributing factor in your and Matt's success in Europe and at the National Championships last week?

JJ: It sounds cheesy but our constant and high priority on "the team" (Matt and me) puts all the other critical parts of racing in perspective. So we keep coming back to our individual qualities and characteristics that make it easy for us to put our team first.

RT: What is your best advice to new paddlers in the sport who want to progress to your level of elite paddling?

JJ: My advice to new paddlers with dreams of competing at the

elite level is to keep it as a dream and focus on keeping the process for reaching your dreams fun, free of pressure, and improving through small steps one rapid at a time.

...focus on keeping the process for reaching your dreams fun, free of pressure, and improving through small steps one rapid at a time.

Joe Jacobi

RT: Paddler Magazine has just run an article on the greatest paddling films of all-time, with Deliverance #1. What is your favorite paddling movie of all-time?

JJ: Movies? I've nearly forgotten what they are - with an 18 month-old, my visual entertainment comes in shorter pieces than full-length feature films. But, I remember a few whitewater movies - between Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon in a raft and Daisy Duke (Catherine Bach) in a Hydra Duet, I'll go with Daisy in the C2 in "Whitewater Rebel."



1992 Olympic Gold Medalist Joe Jacobi